

COMPASS SCHOOL
Student Benchmarks 2008-2009



KNOWLEDGE

Knowledge and understanding	<i>(Knowledge benchmarks...)</i>	
Application of knowledge	<i>(Knowledge benchmarks...)</i>	

THINKING AND REASONING

Questioning and Inquiry	Seeks to determine relationships, causality, relevance, credibility, perspective, and quality	
Critical Thinking	Uses logic, deductive and inductive reasoning	
	Distinguishes fact and opinion, identifies bias and assumptions	
Numeracy	Uses numbers "fluently" for a variety of purposes	
Information handling	Accesses and processes information from a variety of sources (including human, electronic, and print)	
	Acquires information from text	
	Creates, uses, and understands graphic presentations of information (tables, graphs, diagrams, artwork)	
	Accesses information from presentations/lectures and takes appropriate notes	
Making Connections	Connects disparate events or ideas into bigger concepts and understandings to draw new insights; places relationships and connections into a systemic whole.	
Creative Thinking and Expression	Seeks, integrates and expands original ideas, takes appropriate risks, thinks "outside the box"	
	Translates ideas into artistic expression	
Problem solving & decision making	Identifies and frames problems, generates options and solution strategies, evaluates and tests ideas, chooses an option well suited to the task or problem, and accesses appropriate resources	
	Accomplishes real world problem solving and decision making	

COMMUNICATION

Writing	Expresses ideas in a variety of genres	
	Writes with purpose and clarity	
	Follows grammatical and spelling conventions	
	Employs voice and tone appropriate to audience	
	Organizes and supports ideas	
Reading	Comprehends the written word and text in a variety of text formats (fiction and non-fiction, textbooks, magazines, internet)	
	Uses a variety of strategies to aid understanding	
	Demonstrates ability to follow plot and character development, and to draw out big ideas and themes from text	
Verbal expression	Speaks well with clarity and poise, with preparation and "off the cuff"	
	Employs voice and tone appropriate to audience	
	Communicates intended message with clarity	
Listening	Listens and observes with respect and understanding	
Presenting in a variety of formats	Presents skillfully to public audiences	
	Uses graphics, art, music, computer technology and other media to communicate ideas, engage audiences, and add clarity and life to communication	

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Respect for self and the learning process	Shows a positive attitude toward learning and personal growth	
	Focuses and uses school time effectively	
	Aims for high quality work	
Self direction	Develops interests; sets goals; takes ownership and initiative	
	Works independently	
	Follows through on learning commitments; meets deadlines	
	Perseveres through challenges	
	Revises and edits work	
	Asks for help when needed	
Personal Insight	Shows awareness of personal strengths and weaknesses	
Self nurturance	Makes healthy choices	
	Stays physically active	
	Experiences and uses a variety of formats of self expression	
Organization	Manages time to meet obligations and to achieve goals	
	Uses appropriate tools, materials, and systems to organize work and responsibilities	
	Sets priorities	
Attendance	Attends class regularly and on time	

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Collaboration	Works well with others	
	Takes on different roles as needed	
	Experiences team successes	
Respect for others and the environment	Shows empathy, understanding, respect, and support toward others	
	Responsibly cares for one's surroundings and environment (school, local, global)	
	Values diversity and difference	
Leadership	Takes initiative in response to collective challenges	
	Positively engages and inspires others	
	Leads by example	
Democratic participation	Actively participates in the democratic process	
Community service	Participates regularly and actively in service projects	
	Seeks opportunities to help others	
	Respects those being served	